

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TAGS: CCMS, NATO, OECD, SENV

SUBJECT: CCMS: POSSIBLE INITIATIVES

1. SCIENCE DIVISION DASYG HEMILY HAS TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT UK REPRESENTATIVE TO CCMS (FAIRCLOUGH) IS EAGER TO HAVE CCMS BREAK NEW GROUND AND IS NOW PUTTING TOGETHER A SET OF PROPOSALS THAT HE HOPES TO FORWARD TO IS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. INTER ALIA, FAIRCLOUGH IS APPARENTLY THINKING OF WAYS TO FOCUS THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON PERTINENT PROBLEMS AND DISTRIBUTE WIDELY THE PAPERS PREPARED FOR IT. (FYI: UK SUGGESTION TO DISCUSS URBAN PROBLEMS AT SPRING 1978 ROUNDTABLE HAS ALREADY BEEN FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY IS AND OTHER ALLIES. FAIRCLOUGH AND IS BELIEVE THAT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR AN URBAN PILOT STUDY MAY EMERGE FROM SUCH A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION. END FYI)

2. IS IS PRESENTLY DRAFTING SYG LUNS' OPENING SPEECH TO
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THE FALL CCMS PLENARY. SOME THOUGHT IS BEING GIVEN TO INCLUDING SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS, OR AT LEAST SUGGESTIONS, REGARDING AREAS THAT CCMS MIGHT EXPLORE. WHETHER OR NOT IS WILL INCORPORATE ANY OF FAIRCLOUGH'S IDEAS AWAIT, OF COURSE, REVIEW OF HIS PROPOSALS.

3. IN RECENT WEEKS, WE HAVE INFORMALLY DISCUSSED WITH IS

THE KIND OF WORK CCMS MIGHT MOST USEFULLY DO IN THE URBAN AREA. IDEA OF DEVELOPING A PILOT STUDY THAT WOULD BRING TOGETHER OFFICIALS AND EXPERTS FROM VARIOUS ALLIED CITIES TO COLLABORATE IN WORKING ON SELECTED COMMON PROBLEMS HAS ATTRACTED MOST FAVORABLE ATTENTION. WE THINK THIS IDEA MERITS SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. THE PILOT STUDY APPROACH HAS WORKED EFFICIENTLY ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, AND SUCH AN URBAN STUDY WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO FOSTER INNOVATIVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE PRESENTLY CONSIDERING PROPOSALS FOR AN URBAN PROBLEMS PROGRAM IN OECD. WE PRESUME THAT AN URBAN PROGRAM IN OECD WOULD FOCUS ON INTEGRATIVE POLICY-MAKING ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND THUS DIFER FROM A POSSIBLE CCMS PILOT STUDY APPROACH. IN VIEW OF THE THINKING GOING ON WITHIN OECD AND CCMS IN REGARD TO URBAN PROBLEMS, WE THINK IT NOW OPPORTUNE TO CONSIDER COORDINATING OUR APPROACH TO URBAN PROBLEMS IN THESE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORA. TO THIS END, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING A POSSIBLE CCMS PILOT STUDY THAT WILL FOSTER ANALYSIS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON CONCRETE URBAN PROBLEMS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AND TEST SOME OF THE BROADER CONCEPTS DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE.

5. ANOTHER ADVANTAGE OF SUCH COORDINATED APPROACH IS THAT IT WILL HELP PREVENT DUPLICATIVE EFFORTS BY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORGANIZATIONS. BY PURSUING ACTIVITIES THAT ARE PARTICULARLY ADAPTED TO THEIR RESOURCES, THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS CAN SUPPORT AND COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER. IN THIS REGARD WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE UK CCMS REPRESENTATIVE FAIRCLOUGH IS ALSO ACTIVE IN OECD'S URBAN PROGRAM. HIS PARTICIPATION IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS WILL ASSIST US IN DEVELOPING COMPLEMENTARY URBAN PROGRAMS IN OECD AND CCMS. DEPARTMENT SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT IS MAINTAINS FREQUENT INFORMAL CONTACT WITH OECD ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE AND IS WELL INFORMED OF WORK OF OECD/URBAN ENVIRONMENT GROUP.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF PROBABLE UK PROPOSALS, POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR CCMS INITIATIVES IN LUNS' SPEECH, AND DISCUSSIONS OF URBAN PROGRAMS IN OECD AND CCMS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE OCTOBER 18-19 CCMS PLENARY, ON HOW BEST TO COORDINATE ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON URBAN PROBLEMS. BENNETT

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